EXHIBIT 3-3

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JAM 2 8 2000 PE

HECENED

JAN 312001

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box -+

PTG7SB/21 (I Approved for use through 09/30/2000, OMB 0651-0 nd Trademark Office U.S. OF RARTMENT OF COMME

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information piless it displays valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number 09/380,696 9 9 November 29, 1999

First Named Inventor Lo et al.

Group Art Unit 1655

Examiner Name Jeanine Enewold Goldberg

Attorney Docket Number JAK-PT001

January 24, 2001

		ENCLOSURES (check all that a	pply)
¥ Fee Transm	nittal Form	Assignment Papers (for an Application)	After Allowance Communication to Group
Fee .	Attached	Drawing(s)	Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
✗ Amendme	nt / Response	Licensing-related Papers	Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
X Afte	er Final	Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	Proprietary Information
Affi	davits/declaration(s)	Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	Status Letter
Extension	of Time Request	Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Express Al	pandonment Request	Terminal Disclaimer Small Entity Statement	Sequence Listing (3 pgs.) and Diskette
Information	n Disclosure Statement	Request for Refund	
Certified C	opy of Priority (s)	Remarks	<u> </u>
	to Missing Parts/ Application		
Par	sponse to Missing ts under 37 CFR 2 or 1.53		
	SIGNATU	RE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OF	RAGENT
Firm	C. Frederick K	oenig III, Esquire	Reg. No. 29,662
Individual name	Volpe and Koe	enig, P.C.	
Signature	1/7	5-25	
Date	January 24, 20	01	
		CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be send to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Date

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mall in an

envelope addressed to: Box AF, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date:

Typed or printed name C. Frederick Koenig III, Esquire

Volpe and Koenig, P.J. Revision of

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OF 20/58/17 (11-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OF 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE of a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2001

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT

(\$) 0.00

C	omplete if Know
Application Number	09/380,696
Filing Date	November 29, 2999
First Named Inventor	Lo et al.
Examiner Name	Jeanine. Enewold oldberg
Group Art Unit	1655
Attorney Docket No.	JAK-PT001 (Formerly SHP-PT048)

METHOD OF PAYMENT	FEE CALCULATION (continued)	
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:	3. ADDITIONAL FEES	
Deposit	Large Small	
Account Number 22-0493	Entity Entity Fee	
Deposit	Code (\$) Code (\$)	Fee Paid
Account Name Volpe and Koenig, P.C.	105 130 205 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
Charge Any Deficiency or Credit any Overpayment in the Total Fees Associated with this Communication	127 50 227 25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27	139 130 139 130 Non-English specification	
2. Payment Enclosed:	147 2,520 147 2,520 For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	<u></u> .
Check Credit card Money Order Other	112 920* 112 920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
FEE CALCULATION	113 1,840* 113 1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	<u> </u>
1. BASIC FILING FEE	115 110 215 55 Extension for reply within first month	
Large Entity Small Entity	116 390 216 195 Extension for reply within second month	
Fee Fee Fee Fee Description Code (\$) Code (\$) Fee Paid	117 890 217 445 Extension for reply within third month	
101 710 201 355 Utility filing fee	118 1,390 218 695 Extension for reply within fourth month	
106 320 206 160 Design filing fee	128 1,890 228 945 Extension for reply within fifth month	
107 490 207 245 Plant filing fee	119 310 219 155 Notice of Appeal	
108 710 208 355 Reissue filing fee	120 310 220 155 Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
114 150 214 75 Provisional filing fee	121 270 221 135 Request for oral hearing	
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)0.00	138 1,510 138 1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
	140 110 240 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable	
2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES Fee from	141 1,240 241 620 Petition to revive - unintentional	
Extra Claims below Fee Paid	142 1,240 242 620 Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
Total Claims 27 - 28 ** 0 x 9.00 = 0	143 440 243 220 Design issue fee	
Multiple Dependent	144 600 244 300 Plant issue fee	
within pehelidetit	122 130 122 130 Petitions to the Commissioner	
Large Entity Small Entity	123 50 123 50 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
Fee Fee Fee Fee Description	126 180 126 180 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
Code (\$) Code (\$) 103 18 203 9 Claims in excess of 20	581 40 581 40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
102 80 202 40 Independent claims in excess of 3	146 710 246 355 Filling a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
104 270 204 135 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid 109 80 209 40 ** Reissue independent claims	149 710 249 355 For each additional invention to be	
109 80 209 40 ** Reissue independent claims over original patent	examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	!
110 18 210 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20	179 710 279 355 Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
and over original patent	169 900 169 900 Request for expedited examination	
SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) 0.00	Other fee (specify)	
**or number previously pald, if greater; For Reissues, see above	*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 0.00	

SUBMITTED BY			Complete (ii	if applicable)	•
Name (Print/Type)	C. Frederick Koenig III, Esquire	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 29,662	Telephone	215-568-6400	
Signature	1 / / / /			January 24, 2001	7

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO. Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

PATENT WEST

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Our File: JAK-PT001

Date: February 6, 2001

In the PATENT APPLICATION of:

Lo et al.

Application No.: 09/380,696

Filed: November 29, 1999

For: NON-INVASIVE PRENATAL

DIAGNOSIS

Group: 1655

Examiner: Jeanine Enewold Goldberg

REPLY TO ERROR REPORT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Crystal Mall I 7th Floor 1911 South Clark Street Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

This Reply is responsive to the Examiner fax of February 5, 2001 requesting correction of the previously submitted sequence listing per 37 C.F.R. §§1.821-1.825. Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification by substituting the enclosed paper copy of a Sequence Listing (3 pages.) for the Sequence Listing submitted with Applicants' Supplemental Reply dated January 24, 2001.

E

Applicant: Lo et al. **Application No.:** 09/380,696

REMARKS

Pursuant to the Examiner's fax request, submitted herewith are corrected paper and computer-readable copies of an appropriate "Sequence Listing". The content of the paper and computer-readable copies are the same and include no new matter.

Since an agreement has been reached with respect to the allowability of all pending claims per the Examiner's fax of January 16, 2001, it is respectfully submitted that this case is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration, entry of this amendment and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Lo et al.

Volpe and Koenig, P.C. Suite 400, One Penn Center 1617 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19103

CFK/fap

y______

C. Frederick Keenig III, Esquire

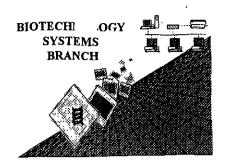
Registration No. 29,662

(215) 568-6400



J. Gillong

RAW SEQUENCE LISTING ERROR REPORT



The Biotechnology Systems Branch of the Scientific and Technical Information Center (STIC) detected errors when processing the following computer readable form:

Application Serial Number: _09

Source:

Date Processed by STIC:

215-568-6499

THE ATTACHED PRINTOUT EXPLAINS DETECTED ERRORS.

PLEASE FORWARD THIS INFORMATION TO THE APPLICANT BY EITHER:

- 1) INCLUDING A COPY OF THIS PRINTOUT IN YOUR NEXT COMMUNICATION TO THE APPLICANT, WITH A NOTICE TO COMPLY or,
- TELEPHONING APPLICANT AND FAXING A COPY OF THIS PRINTOUT, WITH A NOTICE TO COMPLY

FOR CRF SUBMISSION QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT MARK SPENCER, 703-308-4212.

FOR SEQUENCE RULES INTERPRETATION, PLEASE CONTACT ROBERT WAX, 703-308-4216. PATENTIN 2.1 e-mail help: patin21help@uspto.gov or phone 703-306-4119 (R. Wax) PATENTIN 3.0 e-mail help: patin3help@uspto.gov or phone 703-306-4119 (R. Wax)

TO REDUCE ERRORED SEQUENCE LISTINGS, PLEASE USE THE CHECKER **VERSION 3.0 PROGRAM**, ACCESSIBLE THROUGH THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE WEBSITE. SEE BELOW:

Checker Version 3.0

The Checker Version 3.0 application is a state-of the-art Windows based software program employing a logical and intuitive user-interface to check whether a sequence listing is in compliance with format and content rules. Checker Version 3 0 works for sequence listings generated for the original version of 37 CFR §§1.821 - 1 825 effective October 1, 1990 (old rules) and the revised version (new rules) effective July 1, 1998 as well as World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Standard ST 25.

Checker Version 3.0 replaces the previous DOS-based version of Checker, and is Y2Kcompliant. Checker allows public users to check sequence listings in Computer Readable form (CRF) before submitting them to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). Use of Checker prior to filing the sequence listing is expected to result in fewer errored sequence listings, thus saving time and money.

Checker Version 3.0 can be down loaded from the USPTO website at the following address: http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/checker

SEQUENCE LISTING

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1655

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TIME: 12:20:22

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WAINSCOAT, JAMES STEPHEN

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Rever - this is a global even, apreaing in
all sequences usert a space between each ground

Page 2 of 3

VERIFICATION SUMMARY

DATE: 02/05/2001

PATENT APPLICATION: US/09/380,696 TIME: 12:20:23

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J. Goldbery

Page 1 of 5

 RAW SEQUENCE LISTING
 DATE: 02/15/2001

 PATENT APPLICATION: US/09/380,696A
 TIME: 15:39:25

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Output Set: N:\CRF3\02152001\1380696A.raw

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                                                                            ENTERED
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Page 2 of 5

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PATENT APPLICATION: US/09/380,696A

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Page 4 of 5

VERIFICATION SUMMARY
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b						
,	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Nation of Allowability	09/380,696	LO ET AL.				
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit				
	Jeanine A Enewold Goldberg	1655				
The MAILING DATE of this communication appe All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue F THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATE initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CF	OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this appliced or other appropriate comministry. This application is sub-	plication. If not included unication will be mailed in due course.				
1. This communication is responsive to 12/27/00; 1/11/01; 1/1	6/01.					
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3-28.	 -					
3. The drawings filed on are acceptable as formal drav	vinas.	,				
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority und	~					
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:						
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have	been received.					
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have						
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority doc	· · · · · —					
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).						
* Certified copies not received:						
5. Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority u	inder 35 U S.C. & 119(e).					
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of t						
6. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OAT						
7. Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS						
(a) ☑ including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers	on's Patent Drawing Review(PTO-	.948) attached				
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☒ to Paper No. 9.		,				
(b) including changes required by the proposed drawing c	orrection filed . which has be	een approved by the examiner.				
(c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's						
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter						
8. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIR	EMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF B	IOLOGICAL MATERIAL.				
Any reply to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corn applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, ALLOWANCE should also be included.						
Attachment(s)						
 1 Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 3 Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5 Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. 7 Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material 	4⊠ Interview Summa 6⊠ Examiner's Ame 8⊠ Examiner's State 9⊡ Other	al Patent Application (PTO-152) ary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u>14</u> . Indiment/Comment Indiment of Reasons for Allowance LISA B. ARTHUR RIMARY EXAMINER GROUP 1860 1600				

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTO-37 (Rev. 9-00)

37 (Rev. 9-00) Notice of Allowability

Part of Paper No.

Application/Control Number: 09/380,696

Art Unit: 1655

17/F Page 2 95

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Frederick Koenig on January 16, 2001.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

F

<u>and</u>

1. (Twice Amended) A [nucleic acid detection] method <u>for detecting a paternally inherited nucleic acid of fetal origin</u> performed on a maternal serum or plasma sample from a pregnant female, which method comprises

amplifying a paternally inherited nucleic acid from the serum or plasma sample

detecting the presence of a paternally inherited nucleic acid of fetal origin in the sample.

Cancel Claim 2.

Fz

The method according to Claim [2] 1, wherein the foetal nucleic acid is amplified by the polymerase chain reaction.

In Claim 4, "2" has been amended to - - 1 - -.

25. (Amended) A method for detecting a paternally inherited nucleic acid [of performing a prenatal diagnosis] on a maternal blood sample, which method comprises: removing all or substantially all nucleated and anucleated cell populations from the blood sample,

amplifying a paternally inherited nucleic acid from the remaining fluid and subjecting the amplified nucleic acid [remaining fluid] to a test for the paternally inherited fetal nucleic acid [indicative of a maternal or fetal condition or characteristic].

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Application/Control Number: 09/380,696

Art Unit: 1655

Page 3

F4

26. (Twice Amended) A method for performing a prenatal diagnosis on a maternal blood sample, which method comprises obtaining a non-cellular fraction of the blood sample amplifying a paternally inherited nucleic acid from the non-cellular fraction and performing nucleic acid analysis on the [fraction] amplified nucleic acid to detect paternally inherited fetal nucleic acid.

The first line of the specification has been amended to insert - This application

F5

is the national stage of PCT Application No. PCT/GB98/00690, filed March 4, 1998 under 37 CFR 371) - -

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The claims are drawn to a method of detecting paternally inherited nucleic acid of fetal origin performed on a maternal serum or plasma sample from a pregnant female, by amplifying a paternally inherited nucleic acid from the serum or plasma sample and detecting the presence of a paternally inherited nucleic acid of fetal origin in the sample.

The closest prior art is directed to detecting alterations in plasma DNA for diagnosing and or monitoring the development of DNA (Stroun et al. GB 2299166, September 1996). The art also teaches detecting fetal cells in maternal blood and performing diagnostic tests on the blood. However, the art does not teach nor reasonably suggest that nucleic acid of fetal origin is present in maternal serum or plasma.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

54

Application/Control Number: 09/380,696

Page 4

Art-Unit: 1655

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Jeanine Enewold Goldberg whose telephone number is (703) 306-5817. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Thursday from 7:00AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Jones, can be reached on (703) 308-1152. The fax number for this Group is (703) 305-3014.

Any inquiry of a general nature should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Jeanine Enewold Goldberg January 23, 2001

LISA B. ARTHUR
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1800— 1600



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

日何点2270301

O FREDERICK FOENTS III VOLPE & KOENTS 400 ONE PENN CENTER 1/1/ JOHN F EFBNEDY BOULEVARD PHILADELPHIA PA 19103

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT		DATE MAILED
097380,898	11/29/99	027	GOLPBERG, J	1658	0370170
t Named licant L.C.		35 1	USC 154(b) term ext. =	0 Days	5 u

INVENTION NON-INVASIVE PRENATAL DIAGNOSIS

·ſ	. ATTY'S	DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE		SMALL ENTITY		FEE DUE	DATE DUE	
F	1	SHP-1- FOAR	435-1	1075 , 88 0	CRU	DTILT.	TY N	10	\$1240.0	ŭ - 86201701	

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

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VOLPE & KOENIG 400 ONE PENN CENTER	C. Frederick Koenig III (Depositor's name)
1617 JOHN F KENNEDY BOULEVARD PHILADELPHIA PA 19103	C (Signature)
•	5/2/4) (Date)
APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT DATE MALED
09/380,696 11/29/99 027 GOLDBER	G, J 1655 03/01/01
Applicant LO, 35 USC 154 (b) term ext. = 0 Days.
TILE OF NON-INVASIVE PRENATAL DIAGNOSIS	
ATTY'S DOCKET NO. GLASS-SUBCLASS BATCH NO. APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY FEE DUE DATE DUE
JAK-PT001 1 X84874778788 435-006.000 C86 UTIL	TTY NO. ***********************************
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NGUITOM1 00000089 09380696



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

PATENT APPLICATION of:

Lo et al.

Application No.: 09/380,696

Filed: November 29, 1999

For: NON-INVASIVE PRENATAL

DIAGNOSIS

Group: 1655

Examiner: J. Goldberg Our File:

JAK-PT001

Date:

May 16, 2001

Batch No.:

C86

Allowed:

March 1, 2001

COMMUNICATION ACCOMPANYING FORMAL DRAWINGS

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Attn: Drawing Review Branch

Sir:

Enclosed for filing in connection with the above-identified application are two (2) replacement sheets of formal drawings along with two copies in compliance with the Notice of Allowability dated March 1, 2001. Sheets 3 and 4 are corrected in accordance with amendments made and approved by the Examiner during prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

Lo et al.

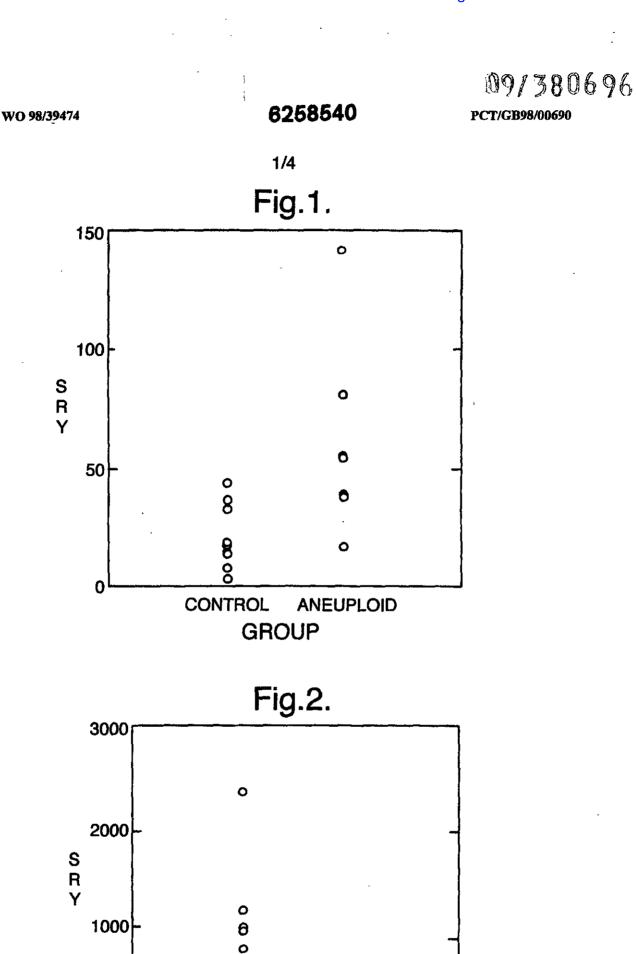
C. Frederick Koenig III, Esquire

Registration No. 29,662

(215) 568-6400

Volpe and Koenig, P.C. Suite 400, One Penn Center 1617 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19103

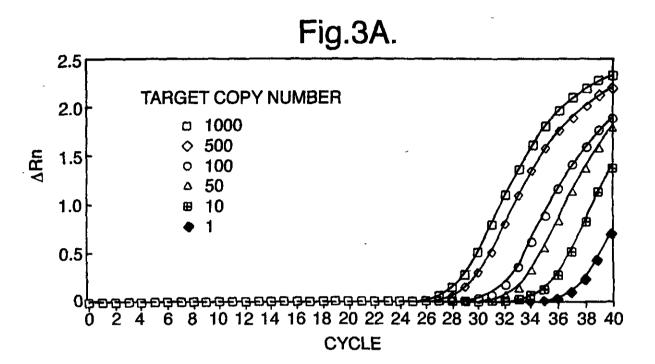
CFK/fap

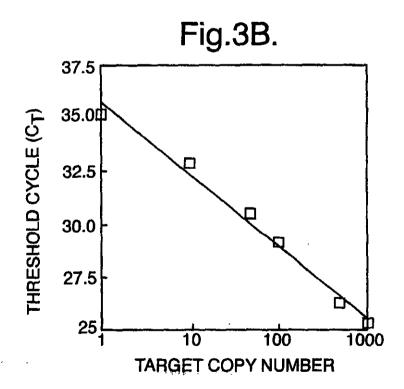


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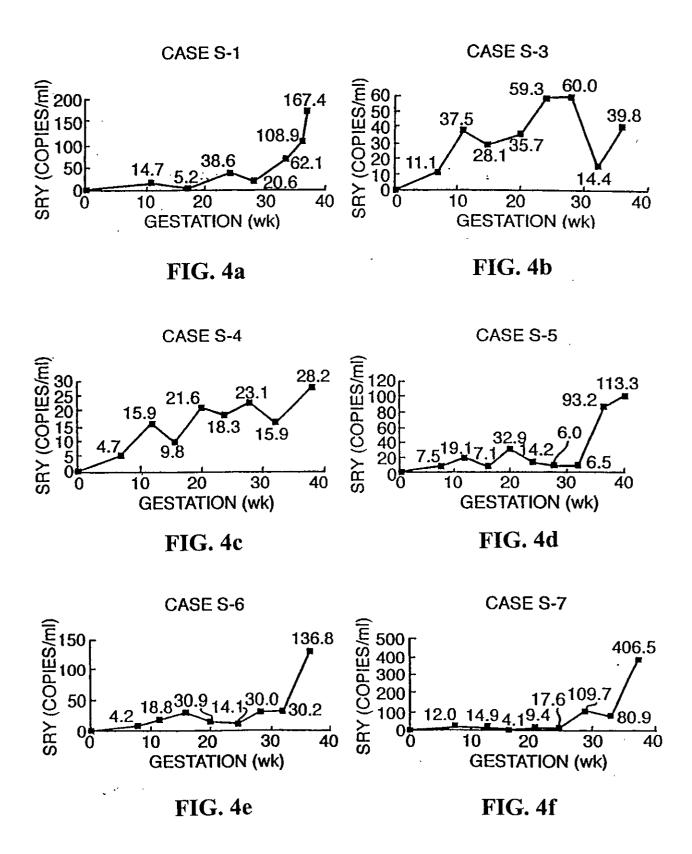
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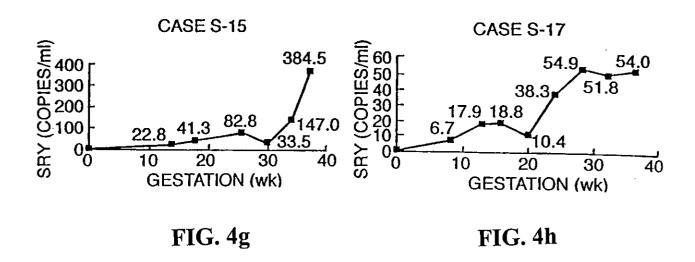
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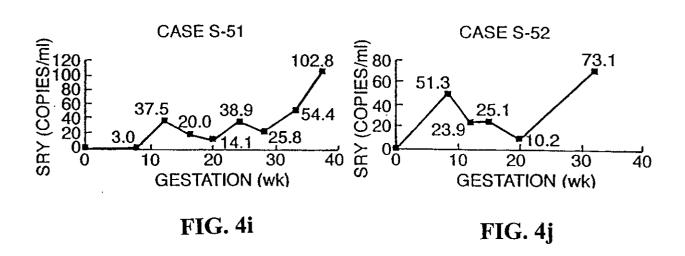


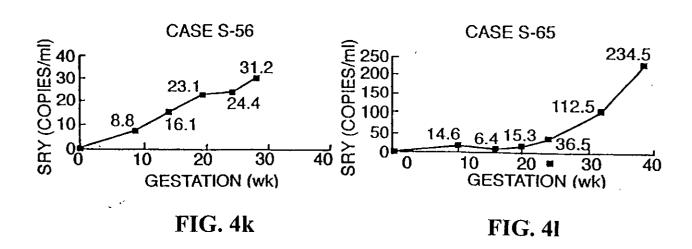


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FILE LOCATION 16X1 SERIAL NUMBER 09380696 PATENT NUMBER 6258540

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(FILE 'HOME' ENTERED AT 12:39:28 ON 29 MAR 2000)

FILE 'MEDLINE, BIOSIS, CAPLUS, EMBASE, SCISEARCH' ENTERED AT 12:39:43 ON 29 MAR 2000

3923051 S SERUM OR PLASMA
821836 S PRENATAL OR MATERNAL OR FETAL OR FOETAL
136809 S L1 AND L2
1820 S L3 AND (PCR OR NUCLEIC ACID)
11088 S L3 AND (PCR OR NUCLEIC ACID OR DNA)
4454 S L5 NOT (CALF OR BOVINE)

1746 S L6 AND (SERUM/TI OR PLASMA/TI OR PRENATAL/TI OR FETAL/TI OR

L8 749 DUPLICATE REMOVE L7 (997 DUPLICATES REMOVED)
L9 541 S L8 AND (MATERNAL/TI OR FETAL/TI)

L1

L2

L3

L4 L5

L6

ь7

(FILE 'HOME' ENTERED AT 13:49:47 ON 14 FEB 2000)

FILE 'MEDLINE, BIOSIS, CAPLUS, EMBASE, SCISEARCH' ENTERED AT 13:49:56 ON 14 FEB 2000

E LO/AU

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L1 17 S E24

E LO DENN/AU

E LO YUK/AU

E LO YUK-MI/AU E WAINSCOAT/AU

- L2 727 S E4-E8
- L3 744 S L1 OR L2
- L4 314 S L3 AND (NUCLEIC ACID OR DNA)
- L5 68 S L4 AND (MATERNAL OR FOETAL OR FETAL)
- L6 33 DUPLICATE REMOVE L5 (35 DUPLICATES REMOVED)
- L7 8 S L6 AND (SERUM OR PLASMA)
- L8 727600 S MATERNAL OR FOETAL OR FETAL
- L9 3900005 S SERUM OR PLASMA
- L10 132294 S L9 AND L8
- L11 503524 S PCR OR POLYMERASE CHAIN
- L12 2071 S L10 AND L11
- L13 515524 S Y OR DYS14 OR SRY OR RHESUS D
- L14 50 S L13 AND L12
- L15 28 DUPLICATE REMOVE L14 (22 DUPLICATES REMOVED)
- L16 251 S L12 AND (SERUM OR PLASMA)/TI
- L17 97 DUPLICATE REMOVE L16 (154 DUPLICATES REMOVED)
- L18 71 S L17 NOT (CALF OR BOVINE)
- L19 28 S L18 AND (DIAGNOS?)

L9 ANSWER 1 OF 541 MEDLINE

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2000125852 MEDLINE

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 20125852

TITLE: ***Prenatal*** diagnosis of myotonic dystrophy using

fetal ***DNA*** obtained from ***maternal***

plasma

AUTHOR: Amicucci P; Gennarelli M; Novelli G; Dallapiccola B

CORPORATE SOURCE: Department of Biopathology and Diagnostic Imaging, Tor

Vergata University of Rome, Via Di Tor Vergata 135, 00133

Rome, Italy.

SOURCE: CLINICAL CHEMISTRY, (2000 Feb) 46 (2) 301-2.

Journal code: DBZ. ISSN: 0009-9147.

PUB. COUNTRY: United States (CLINICAL TRIAL)

Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)

LANGUAGE: English

FILE SEGMENT: Priority Journals; Cancer Journals

ENTRY MONTH: 200004 ENTRY WEEK: 20000404

L9 ANSWER 5 OF 541 MEDLINE

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2000054918 MEDLINE

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 20054918

TITLE: Rapid ***prenatal*** diagnosis of aneuploidy by

quantitative fluorescent ***PCR*** on ***fetal***

samples from mothers at high risk for chromosome disorders.

AUTHOR: Pertl B; Pieber D; Lercher-Hartlieb A; Orescovic I;

Haeusler M; Winter R; Kroisel P; Adinolfi M

CORPORATE SOURCE: Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of

Graz, Auenbruggerplatz 14, A-8036 Graz, Austria.

SOURCE: MOLECULAR HUMAN REPRODUCTION, (1999 Dec) 5 (12) 1176-9.

Journal code: CWO. ISSN: 1360-9947.

PUB. COUNTRY: ENGLAND: United Kingdom

(CLINICAL TRIAL)

Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)

LANGUAGE: English

FILE SEGMENT: Priority Journals

ENTRY MONTH: 200003 ENTRY WEEK: 20000303

AB We report the results of a prospective study using quantitative fluorescent polymerase chain reaction (QF- ***PCR***) and small tandem repeat markers (STR) for the rapid ***prenatal*** detection of aneuploidies in a group of pregnant women at increased risk of having fetuses with numerical chromosome disorders. Amniotic fluid samples (n = 52) were collected from mothers undergoing ***prenatal*** invasive testing for ***fetal*** abnormalities on ultrasonographic examination or abnormal ***maternal*** ***serum*** aneuploidy screening results. All samples were tested by cytogenetic analysis, but rapid diagnoses of aneuploidies were offered and performed using QF- ***PCR*** analysis with several STRs specific for chromosomes 21, 18, 13 and X. All cases with numerical chromosome aberrations involving chromosomes 21, 18 and 13 (n = 8) were correctly diagnosed. Three gonosomal aneuplodies (one 47, XXY and two 45, X) were not detected because they were uninformative for the X markers. Another sample with a deletion (46,XX,7q-), that the

present assay was not designed to detect, was not identified. One sample was heavily contaminated with ***maternal*** blood and the results of the QF- ***PCR*** assays were uninformative. The remaining samples from normal fetuses provided QF- ***PCR*** patterns disomic for chromosomes 21, 18, 13 and X. Our study demonstrates that QF- ***PCR*** is a rapid method for the detection of common numerical chromosome disorders and it may play an important role in ***prenatal*** diagnosis for women at high risk for ***fetal*** aneuploidy.

L9 ANSWER 7 OF 541 MEDLINE

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2000039659 DOCUMENT NUMBER: 20039659 **MEDLINE**

TITLE: ***Fetal*** RhD genotyping from ***maternal***

plasma

AUTHOR: Lo Y M

CORPORATE SOURCE: Department of Chemical Pathology, The Chinese University of

Hong Kong, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, New Territories, Kong Hong Special Administration Region..

loym@cuhk.edu.hk

ANNALS OF MEDICINE, (1999 Oct) 31 (5) 308-12. Ref: 48 SOURCE:

Journal code: AMD. ISSN: 0785-3890. **ENGLAND: United Kingdom**

PUB. COUNTRY: Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)

General Review; (REVIEW) (REVIEW, TUTORIAL)

LANGUAGE: **English**

FILE SEGMENT: **Priority Journals**

ENTRY MONTH: 200002 ENTRY WEEK: 20000204

AB The ***prenatal*** diagnosis of ***fetal*** rhesus D (RhD) status

is useful for the management of RhD-negative women with partners heterozygous for the RHD gene. Conventional methods for ***prenatal*** ***fetal*** RhD status determination involve invasive procedures such as ***fetal*** blood sampling and amniocentesis. The recent demonstration

of the existence of cell-free ***fetal*** ***DNA*** in

maternal ***plasma*** and ***serum*** opens up the

possibility of determining ***fetal*** RhD status by analysis of ***maternal*** ***plasma*** or ***serum*** ***DNA* ***DNA*** . This possibility has recently been realized by three independent groups of investigators. This development represents an important step towards the routine application of noninvasive ***fetal*** blood group diagnosis in sensitized pregnancies and may become a model for developing safer noninvasive ***prenatal*** tests for other single-gene disorders.

L9 ANSWER 9 OF 541 MEDLINE

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2000012845 **MEDLINE**

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 20012845

Detection of ***fetal*** -derived paternally inherited TITLE:

X-chromosome polymorphisms in ***maternal**

plasma

Tang N L; Leung T N; Zhang J; Lau T K; Lo Y M AUTHOR:

CORPORATE SOURCE: Department of Chemical Pathology, The Chinese University of

Hong Kong, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, New

Territories, Hong Kong SAR.

CLINICAL CHEMISTRY, (1999 Nov) 45 (11) 2033-5. SOURCE:

Journal code: DBZ, ISSN: 0009-9147.

PUB. COUNTRY: United States

Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)

English LANGUAGE:

FILE SEGMENT: Priority Journals; Cancer Journals

ENTRY MONTH: 200001 ENTRY WEEK: 20000104

L9 ANSWER 1 OF 541 MEDLINE

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2000125852 MEDLINE

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 20125852

Prenatal diagnosis of myotonic dystrophy using TITLE:

fetal ***DNA*** obtained from ***maternal***

plasma

Amicucci P; Gennarelli M; Novelli G; Dallapiccola B AUTHOR:

CORPORATE SOURCE: Department of Biopathology and Diagnostic Imaging, Tor

Vergata University of Rome, Via Di Tor Vergata 135, 00133

Rome, Italy.

SOURCE:

CLINICAL CHEMISTRY, (2000 Feb) 46 (2) 301-2. Journal code: DBZ, ISSN: 0009-9147.

United States PUB. COUNTRY:

(CLINICAL TRIAL)

Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)

LANGUAGE: English

FILE SEGMENT: Priority Journals; Cancer Journals

ENTRY MONTH: 200004

20000404 ENTRY WEEK:

L9 ANSWER 13 OF 541 MEDLINE

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999422253 MEDLINE

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 99422253

Foetal RhD genotyping using ***DNA*** TITLE:

extracted from ***maternal*** ***plasma***.

Mohan A; Seth S AUTHOR:

CORPORATE SOURCE: Department of Emergency Medicine, Sir Venkateswara

Institute of Medical Science, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.
NATIONAL MEDICAL JOURNAL OF INDIA, (1999 May-Jun) 12 (3) SOURCE:

118-9.

Journal code: BNT. ISSN: 0970-258X.

PUB. COUNTRY: India

Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)

LANGUAGE: English ENTRY MONTH:

199912

ENTRY WEEK: 19991201

L9 ANSWER 14 OF 541 MEDLINE

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999402887 MEDLINE

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 99402887

Evaluation of different approaches for ***fetal*** TITLE:

DNA analysis from ***maternal*** ***plasma***

and nucleated blood cells.

AUTHOR: Smid M; Lagona F; de Benassuti L; Ferrari A; Ferrari M; Cremonesi L

CORPORATE SOURCE: Istituto di Rivocero e Cura a Carattere Scientifico,

Hospital San Raffaele, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Via Olgettina 60, 20132 Milan, Italy.

CLINICAL CHEMISTRY, (1999 Sep) 45 (9) 1570-2. SOURCE:

Journal code: DBZ. ISSN: 0009-9147.

PUB. COUNTRY: **United States**

Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)

LANGUAGE: English

FILE SEGMENT: Priority Journals; Cancer Journals

ENTRY MONTH: 199911 ENTRY WEEK: 19991104

L9 ANSWER 27 OF 541 MEDLINE

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999222507 MEDLINE DOCUMENT NUMBER: 99222507

TITLE: Noninvasive determination of ***fetal*** RhD status

using ***fetal*** ***DNA*** in ***maternal***

serum and ***PCR***

AUTHOR: Bischoff F Z; Nguyen D D; Marquez-Do D; Moise K J Jr;

Simpson JL; Elias S

CORPORATE SOURCE: Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Baylor College of

Medicine, Houston, Texas 77030, USA.. bischoff@bcm.tmc.edu

CONTRACT NUMBER: N01-HD43203 (NICHD)

SOURCE: JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY FOR GYNECOLOGIC INVESTIGATION, (1999

Mar-Apr) 6 (2) 64-9.

Journal code: CMH. ISSN: 1071-5576.

PUB. COUNTRY: United States

Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)

LANGUAGE: **English**

FILE SEGMENT: **Priority Journals**

ENTRY MONTH: 199908 ENTRY WEEK: 19990802

AB OBJECTIVE: Because ***prenatal*** testing of ***fetal*** RhD

status by amniocentesis carries small yet finite risks to the fetus and mother, this study sought to determine whether ***fetal***

in ***maternal*** ***serum*** could be used to detect

fetal RhD status by polymerase chain reaction (***PCR***). METHODS: A retrospective analysis was made of frozen ***serum*** specimens from 20 sensitized RhD-negative pregnant women (ranging from 15.0 to 36.0 weeks' gestation) who were confirmed by serology at birth to have been carrying RhD-positive fetuses. Eleven ***serum*** specimens from RhD-negative individuals served as controls. ***DNA*** was isolated from ***serum*** and used in two ***PCR*** -based methods to detect a 99 base pair (bp) ***DNA*** fragment specific for the RhD gene and a 113 bp fragment specific for the RhCE gene as control. RESULTS: Overall, in 14 (70%) of 20 RhD-positive fetuses the 99 base pair RhD-specific ***PCR*** product was detected. There was no false positive detection among the 11 control ***serum*** specimens.

CONCLUSION: The results illustrate the ability to detect ***fetal*** RhD sequences in ***maternal*** ***serum*** of sensitized women. Moreover, the findings demonstrate that ***fetal*** single-gene

disorders can be detected prenatally by using ***DNA*** isolated only

from ***maternal*** ***serum*** .

L9 ANSWER 33 OF 541 MEDLINE

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999132218 MEDLINE

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 99132218

TITLE:

Quantitative abnormalities of ***fetal*** ***maternal*** ***serum*** in preeclampsia [see comments].

COMMENT: Comment in: Clin Chem 1999 Apr;45(4):451-2

AUTHOR: Lo Y M; Leung T N; Tein M S; Sargent I L; Zhang J; Lau T K;

Haines C J; Redman C W

CORPORATE SOURCE: Departments of Chemical Pathology, Chinese University of

Hong Kong, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, New Territories, Hong Kong SAR.. loym@cuhk.edu.hk

SOURCE: CLINICAL CHEMISTRY, (1999 Feb) 45 (2) 184-8.

Journal code: DBZ. ISSN: 0009-9147.

PUB. COUNTRY: United States

Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)

LANGUAGE: English

FILE SEGMENT: Cancer Journals; Priority Journals

ENTRY MONTH: 199904

AB BACKGROUND: There is much recent interest in the biologic and diagnostic implication of cell-free non-host ***DNA*** in the ***plasma*** and ***serum*** of human subjects. To determine if quantitative abnormalities of circulating non-host ***DNA*** may be associated with certain pathologic processes, we used circulating ***fetal***

DNA in preeclampsia as a model system. METHODS: We studied 20 preeclamptic women and 20 control subjects of comparable gestational age (means, 32 and 33 weeks, respectively). Male ***fetal*** ***DNA*** in ***maternal*** ***serum*** was measured using real-time quantitative ***PCR*** for the SRY gene on the Y chromosome. RESULTS: The imprecision (CV) of the assay was 2.7%. The median circulating

fetal ***DNA*** was increased fivefold in 20 preeclamptic women compared with 20 control pregnant women (381 vs 76 genome-equivalents/mL, P <0.001). CONCLUSIONS: These observations suggest that preeclampsia is associated with disturbances in the liberation and/or clearance mechanisms of circulating ***DNA*** . These results also raise the possibility that measurement of circulating ***DNA*** may prove useful as a marker for the diagnosis and/or monitoring of preeclampsia.

L9 ANSWER 36 OF 541 MEDLINE

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999115099 MEDLINE

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 99115099

TITLE: Rapid clearance of ***fetal*** ***DNA*** from
maternal ***plasma***.

AUTHOR: Lo Y M; Zhang J; Leung T N; Lau T K; Chang A M; Hjelm N M CORPORATE SOURCE: Department of Chemical Pathology, Chinese University of

Hong Kong, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, New

Territories, Hong Kong.

SOURCE: AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HUMAN GENETICS, (1999 Jan) 64 (1)

218-24

Journal code: 3IM, ISSN: 0002-9297.

PUB. COUNTRY: United States

Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)

LANGUAGE: English

FILE SEGMENT: Priority Journals

ENTRY MONTH: 199905 ENTRY WEEK: 19990502

AB ***Fetal*** ***DNA*** has been detected in ***maternal***

plasma during pregnancy. We investigated the clearance of

circulating ***fetal*** ***DNA*** after delivery, using

quantitative ***PCR*** analysis of the sex-determining region Y gene
as a marker for thale fetuses. We analyzed ***plasma*** samples from 12

women 1-42 d after delivery of male babies and found that circulating ***fetal*** ***DNA*** was undetectable by day 1 after delivery. To obtain a higher time-resolution picture of ***fetal*** ***DNA*** clearance, we performed serial sampling of eight women, which indicated that most women (seven) had undetectable levels of circulating ***fetal*** ***DNA*** by 2 h postpartum. The mean half-life for circulating ***fetal*** ***DNA*** was 16.3 min (range 4-30 min). ***Plasma*** nucleases were found to account for only part of the clearance of ***plasma*** ***fetal*** ***DNA*** . The rapid turnover of circulating ***DNA*** suggests that ***plasma*** ***DNA*** analysis may be less susceptible to false-positive results, which result from carryover from previous pregnancies, than is the detection of ***fetal*** cells in ***maternal*** blood; also, rapid turnover may be useful for the monitoring of feto- ***maternal*** events with rapid dynamics. These results also may have implications for the study of other types of nonhost ***DNA*** in ***plasma*** such as circulating tumor-derived and graft-derived ***DNA*** in oncology and transplant patients, respectively.

L9 ANSWER 41 OF 541 MEDLINE

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999049885 MEDLINE

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 99049885

TITLE: ***Pr

Prenatal diagnosis of ***fetal*** RhD status by molecular analysis of ***maternal*** ***plasma***

[see comments].

COMMENT: Comment in: N Engl J Med 1998 Dec 10;339(24):1775-7

AUTHOR:

SOURCE:

Lo Y M; Hjelm N M; Fidler C; Sargent I L; Murphy M F; Chamberlain P F; Poon P M; Redman C W; Wainscoat J S

CORPORATE SOURCE: Department of Chemical Pathology, Chinese University of

Hong Kong, Prince of Wales Hospital.

NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE, (1998 Dec 10) 339 (24)

1734-8.

Journal code: NOW. ISSN: 0028-4793. PUB. COUNTRY: United States

Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)

LANGUAGE: English

FILE SEGMENT: Abridged Index Medicus Journals; Priority Journals; Cancer

Journals

ENTRY MONTH:

199902 19990204

ENTRY WEEK: 19990204

AB BACKGROUND: The ability to determine ***fetal*** RhD Status noninvasively is useful in the treatment of RhD-sensitized pregnant women whose partners are heterozygous for the RhD gene. The recent demonstration of ***fetal*** ***DNA*** in ***maternal*** ***plasma*** raises the possibility that ***fetal*** RhD genotyping may be possible with the use of ***maternal*** ***plasma***. METHODS: We studied 57 RhD-negative pregnant women and their singleton fetuses. ***DNA*** extracted from ***maternal*** ***plasma*** was analyzed for the RhD gene with a fluorescence-based polymerase-chain-reaction (***PCR***) test sensitive enough to detect the RhD gene in a single cell.

Fetal RhD status was determined directly by serologic analysis of cord blood or ***PCR*** analysis of amniotic fluid. RESULTS: Among the 57 RhD-negative women, 12 were in their first trimester of pregnancy, 30 were in their second trimester, and 15 were in their third trimester. Thirty-nine fetuses were RhD-positive, and 18 were RhD-negative. In the samples obtained from women in their second or third trimester of

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pregnancy, the results of RhD ***PCR*** analysis of ***maternal***
   ***plasma*** ***DNA*** were completely concordant with the results of serologic analysis. Among the ***maternal*** ***plasma***
   samples collected in the first trimester, 2 contained no RhD ***DNA***
   , but the fetuses were RhD-positive; the results in the other 10 samples
   were concordant (7 were RhD-positive, and 3 RhD-negative). CONCLUSIONS:
   Noninvasive ***fetal*** RhD genotyping can be performed rapidly and
   reliably with the use of ***maternal***
                                          ***plasma*** beginning in
   the second trimester of pregnancy.
L9 ANSWER 44 OF 541 MEDLINE
ACCESSION NUMBER: 1998449274
DOCUMENT NUMBER: 98449274
                                     MEDLINE
           Detection of ***fetal*** RHD-specific sequences in ***maternal*** ***plasma*** [letter].
AUTHOR:
                 Faas B H; Beuling E A; Christiaens G C; von dem Borne A E;
           van der Schoot C E
                LANCET, (1998 Oct 10) 352 (9135) 1196.
SOURCE:
           Journal code: LOS. ISSN: 0140-6736.
                    ENGLAND: United Kingdom
PUB. COUNTRY:
           Letter
LANGUAGE:
                   English
FILE SEGMENT:
                    Abridged Index Medicus Journals; Priority Journals; Cancer
           Journals
ENTRY MONTH:
                     199901
                    19990104
ENTRY WEEK:
L9 ANSWER 56 OF 541 MEDLINE
ACCESSION NUMBER: 1998198334
                                      MEDLINE
DOCUMENT NUMBER: 98198334
              Quantitative analysis of ***fetal*** ***DNA*** in
TITLE:
           implications for noninvasive ***prenatal*** diagnosis.
AUTHOR:
                 Lo Y M; Tein M S; Lau T K; Haines C J; Leung T N; Poon P M;
           Wainscoat J S; Johnson P J; Chang A M; Hjelm N M
CORPORATE SOURCE: Department of Chemical Pathology, The University of Hong
           Kong, Prince Wales Hospital, Shatin, New Territories, Hong
           Kong., loym@cuhk.edu.hk
SOURCE:
                AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HUMAN GENETICS, (1998 Apr) 62 (4)
           768-75
           Journal code: 3IM. ISSN: 0002-9297.
PUB. COUNTRY:
                    United States
           Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)
LANGUAGE:
                   English
FILE SEGMENT:
                    Priority Journals
ENTRY MONTH:
                     199808
                    19980802
ENTRY WEEK:
AB We have developed a real-time quantitative ***PCR*** assay to measure
   the concentration of ***fetal*** ***DNA*** in ***maternal***
    ***plasma*** and ***serum*** . Our results show that ***fetal***
    ***DNA*** is present in high concentrations in ***maternal***
    ***plasma***, reaching a mean of 25.4 genome equivalents/ml (range
   3.3-69. 4) in early pregnancy and 292.2 genome equivalents/ml (range 76.
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9-769) in late pregnancy. These concentrations correspond to 3.4% (range 0.39%-11.9%) and 6.2% (range 2.33%-11.4%) of the total ***plasma*** ***DNA*** in early and late pregnancy, respectively. Sequential

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follow-up study of women who conceived by in vitro fertilization shows
   that ***fetal*** ***DNA*** can be detected in ***maternal**
    ***serum*** as early as the 7th wk of gestation and that it then
   increases in concentration as pregnancy progresses. These data suggest
  that ***fetal*** ***DNA*** can be readily detected in
***maternal*** ***plasma*** and ***serum*** and may be a
   valuable source of material for noninvasive ***prenatal*** diagnosis.
L9 ANSWER 57 OF 541 MEDLINE
ACCESSION NUMBER: 1998198332
                                      MEDLINE
DOCUMENT NUMBER: 98198332
                TITLE:
           ***plasma*** : the plot thickens and the placental barrier
           thins [editorial].
AUTHOR:
                 Bianchi D W
                 AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HUMAN GENETICS, (1998 Apr) 62 (4)
SOURCE:
           763-4. Ref: 13
           Journal code: 3IM. ISSN: 0002-9297.
PUB. COUNTRY:
                     United States
           Editorial
           General Review; (REVIEW)
           (REVIEW, TUTORIAL)
LANGUAGE:
                   English
FILE SEGMENT:
                    Priority Journals
ENTRY MONTH:
                     199808
                    19980802
ENTRY WEEK:
L9 ANSWER 74 OF 541 MEDLINE
ACCESSION NUMBER: 97420079
                                     MEDLINE
DOCUMENT NUMBER: 97420079
           Presence of ***fetal*** ***DNA*** in 
***maternal*** ***plasma*** and ***serum***.
TITLE:
                 Lo Y M; Corbetta N; Chamberlain P F; Rai V; Sargent I L;
AUTHOR:
           Redman C W; Wainscoat J S
CORPORATE SOURCE: Nuffield Department of Clinical Biochemistry, John
           Radcliffe Hospital, University of Oxford, UK.
               LANCET, (1997 Aug 16) 350 (9076) 485-7.
SOURCE:
           Journal code: LOS. ISSN: 0140-6736.
PUB. COUNTRY:
                    ENGLAND: United Kingdom
           Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)
LANGUAGE:
                   English
FILE SEGMENT:
                     Abridged Index Medicus Journals; Priority Journals; Cancer
           Journals
ENTRY MONTH:
                     199711
                    19971103
ENTRY WEEK:
AB BACKGROUND: The potential use of ***plasma*** and ***serum*** for
  molecular diagnosis has generated interest. Tumour ***DNA*** has been
  found in 'the ***plasma*** and ***serum*** of cancer patients, and
  molecular analysis has been done on this material. We investigated the
  equivalent condition in pregnancy-that is, whether ***fetal***

***DNA*** is present in ***maternal*** ***plasma*** and

***serum***. METHODS: We used a rapid-boiling method to extract
    ***DNA*** from ***plasma*** and ***serum*** . ***DNA*** from
    ***plasma*** , ***serum*** , and nucleated blood cells from 43
  pregnant women underwent a sensitive Y- ***PCR*** assay to detect
  circulating male ***fetal***
                                ***DNA*** from women bearing male
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fetuses. FINDINGS: Fetus-derived Y sequences were detected in 24 (80%) of the 30 ***maternal*** ***plasma*** samples, and in 21 (70%) of the 30 ***maternal*** ***serum*** samples, from women bearing male fetuses. These results were obtained with only 10 microL of the samples. When ***DNA*** from nucleated blood cells extracted from a similar volume of blood was used, only five (17%) of the 30 samples gave a positive Y signal. None of the 13 women bearing female fetuses, and none of the ten non-pregnant control women, had positive results for ***plasma***, ***serum*** or nucleated blood cells. INTERPRETATION: Our finding of circulating ***fetal*** ***DNA*** in ***maternal*** ***plasma*** may have implications for non-invasive ***prenatal*** diagnosis, and for improving our understanding of the fetomaternal relationship.

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